



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 6744

LCO No. 3666

Referred to Committee on Transportation

Introduced by:
(TRA)

AN ACT CONCERNING APPLICATIONS FOR TAXICAB SERVICE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Subsection (a) of section 13b-97 of the general statutes is repealed
2 and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (a) (1) No person, association, limited liability company or
4 corporation shall operate a taxicab until such person, association,
5 limited liability company or corporation has obtained a certificate from
6 the Department of Transportation certifying that public convenience
7 and necessity require the operation of a taxicab or taxicabs for
8 transportation of passengers, the acceptance or solicitation of which
9 originates within the territory specified in such certificate except as
10 provided under subsection (d) of this section. No such certificate shall
11 be issued unless the department finds that the person, association,
12 limited liability company or corporation is suitable to operate a taxicab
13 service, after giving due consideration to, at a minimum, the following
14 factors: [(1)] (A) Any convictions of the applicant under federal, state
15 or local laws relative to safety, motor vehicle or criminal violations;
16 [(2)] (B) the number of taxicabs to be operated under the certificate;
17 [(3)] (C) the adequacy of the applicant's financial resources to operate

18 the taxicab service; [(4)] (D) the adequacy of insurance coverage and
19 safety equipment; [and (5)] (E) the availability of qualified taxicab
20 operators; (F) the current use of taxicabs in the territory and the
21 expected growth and potential peak demand of taxicab use in the
22 territory; (G) the ability of the applicant to meet the demand for taxicab
23 service in all parts of the territory; (H) if applicable, any past history of
24 the applicant in providing quality taxicab service to all segments of the
25 population within the territory; and (I) the technical resources of the
26 applicant that will be utilized to insure promptness of response by the
27 applicant's taxicabs.

28 (2) In support of an application for a new certificate or an amended
29 certificate, the applicant may provide to the commissioner (A) as
30 evidence of the current use of taxicabs in the territory or of the
31 expected growth of taxicab use in the territory, as provided in
32 subparagraph (F) of subdivision (1) of this subsection, driver trip
33 sheets, dispatcher logs, computer records or other information that
34 shows that the existing number of taxicabs in the territory has not met
35 the demand for service, and (B) as evidence of the ability of the
36 applicant to meet the demand for service in all parts of the territory, as
37 provided in subparagraph (G) of subdivision (1) of this subsection,
38 information or other evidence that the applicant has serviced or will
39 service the segments of the population within the territory whose trips
40 originate from locations other than airports, train stations, bus stations,
41 ferry terminals or other transportation hubs.

42 (3) The commissioner shall request the state criminal history records
43 check for any person or any officer of any association, limited liability
44 company or corporation applying for such certificate from the State
45 Police Bureau of Identification. The commissioner shall arrange for the
46 fingerprinting of any person or any officer of any association, limited
47 liability company or corporation applying for such certificate and
48 forward the fingerprints to said bureau which shall submit the
49 fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national
50 criminal history records check for any federal conviction specified in

51 subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection. A fee shall be
52 charged by the commissioner for each such national criminal history
53 records check which shall be equal to the fee charged by the Federal
54 Bureau of Investigation for performing such check.

55 (4) Such certificate shall be issued only after written application,
56 fingerprinting and said criminal history records check [for the same]
57 has been made and public hearing held thereon. The application shall
58 be accompanied by a fee of eighty-eight dollars and the fee for said
59 criminal history records check.

60 (5) Upon receipt of such application, the department shall fix a time
61 and place of hearing thereon and shall promptly give written notice of
62 the pendency of such application and of the time and place of hearing
63 thereon to such applicant, the mayor of each city, the warden of each
64 borough or the first selectman of each town in which the applicant
65 desires to originate the transportation of such passengers, and to any
66 common carrier operating within the territory specified.

67 (6) Notwithstanding any provision of this subsection to the
68 contrary, the department may, upon receipt of a written application,
69 amend an existing certificate to increase the number of taxicabs which
70 may be operated pursuant to the certificate without holding a hearing
71 on the application, provided the department issues a legal notice of
72 such application in a daily newspaper in accordance with the
73 provisions of section 1-2, gives written notice of the pendency of such
74 application to any common carrier operating within the territory
75 specified and no objection is filed with the department within thirty
76 days of each such notice.

77 (7) With respect to any application filed under the provisions of this
78 subsection, the department shall not consider as a ground for denial of
79 a request for an increase in the number of taxicabs to be operated
80 within the territory specified, any number of taxicabs not currently
81 registered with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles at the time of
82 filing of such application or at the time of any hearing held thereon.

Statement of Purpose:

To provide additional factors for the Department of Transportation to consider in reviewing applications for taxicab certificates and to inform applicants about the types of evidence in support of an application that will be considered by the department.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]